

Eco Council Newsletter April 2024

The Eco Council took part in the Big Plastic Count. This involved counting and classifying each piece of plastic thrown away at home, for an entire week. The total number of each packaging type was then uploaded to the website. They then produced the plastic footprint of our Eco Council.

PLASTIC FOOTPRINT OF ECO CLUB, KILLIGREW PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

IN ONE WEEK, ECO CLUB
THREW AWAY:

398

PIECES OF PLASTIC

OVER A YEAR THAT'S
EQUIVALENT TO:

20,696

PIECES OF PLASTIC

The Big Plastic Count isn't about looking at how much waste individuals produce, but by helping to gather evidence to show how much plastic the UK uses, and what really happens to it. Governments and companies aren't doing enough to help the plastic waste crisis - they need to understand that recycling can't fix the plastic crisis.

WHAT WAS ECO CLUB'S PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE USED FOR?



73%

FOOD & DRINK



22%

TOILETRIES & CLEANING



5%

EVERYTHING ELSE

What could you do?

You could write to your MP and ask them to support the reduction in plastic production. You could write to supermarkets and companies and ask them to consider alternative packaging. And please keep reducing, reusing and recycling packaging!

WHAT HAPPENS TO ECO CLUB'S PLASTIC PACKAGING WASTE?



21%
RECYCLED IN THE UK

Plastic waste that is sorted and processed in the UK then turned into new materials.



18%
EXPORTED

Plastic waste that is shipped overseas for processing, but much of it also ends up being dumped or burned.



51%
LANDFILLED

Plastic waste that is disposed of by burying it in the ground.



10%
INCINERATED

Plastic waste that is disposed of by burning it. This releases carbon, toxins and pollutants.

Please remember - this is not about individual responsibility.

Too much single-use plastic is produced without reusable alternatives that suit everyone's needs.



Thank you to all of the families who helped the Eco Council take part in this week-long challenge.

No Mow May

The No Mow May campaign is back this year! The campaign encourages gardeners to leave their lawns to grow during May, to greatly benefit wildlife such as butterflies, bees and other pollinators. There is more information here if you are interested in supporting this:

<https://www.plantlife.org.uk/campaigns/nomowmay/>

Attached is a guide showing some of the flowers that may appear if you let your lawn grow.

Our plans for the year:

The other challenges we chose are Habitat Heaps, Homes for Amphibians, Look Closer and Plant Safari. We will complete these during the year so look out for our next newsletters.

The Eco Council